

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

3. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 1 and 2] claim 1 for identifying female individuals susceptible to osteoarthritis.

6. (Amended) A method for isolating genetic loci according to [any one of claims 4 and 5] claim 4 in which open reading frames are identified within 500 Kb of D11S937.

13. (Amended) A method for determining individual susceptibility to osteoarthritis according to [claims 10 and 11] claim 10 in which the analysed region of genomic DNA comprises a polymorphic marker located within 20cM of DS11901.

15. (Amended) A method for determining individual susceptibility to osteoarthritis according to [any one of claims 10 to 12] claim 10 in which one or more of the following genomic regions is additionally analysed; a genomic region comprising the polymorphic marker D6S273 and a genomic region comprising the polymorphic marker DXS1068.